(b) The major importing countries of complete bicycles are:

Uganda, Tanzania, Mexico, Malawi, Kenya, Germany, Nigeria, Paraguay, Nicarguay, Surinam, USA, UK, Turkey, Syria, Angola, Netherlands, etc.

The main importers of bicycle parts are:

Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Bangla Desh, Germany, Mexico, Egypt, Indonesia, USA, UK, Tanzania, France, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Singapore, Thailand, Venzuela, etc.

(c) EEPC has kept a target of Rs. 240,00 crores for the year 1991-92 for export of Bicycle and bicycle parts.

(d) Government have been providing adequate assistance and incentives to help promote the export of engineering goods including Bicycle and bicycle parts. Some of these include re-structuring the REP scheme to provide for grant of EXIM scrips in place of REP licences at the uniform rate of 30% of f.o.b. value for all export items and 40 per cent for new model bicycles and components; import of C.G. at concessional rate of Custom Duty, supply of export finance at concessional rates, warehousing facility for export to European countries, extension of line of credit to various countries for importing Indian engineering goods and provision of inputs for exports at international prices. In addition to the above, EEPC has been providing feed-back to Indian firms to apprise them of market demand, encouraging manufacturers of Indian bicycle and its parts to participate in the specialised trade fairs abroad and including them in the delegations visiting abroad.

Rise in prices of cement

1397. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to check rise in the prices of cement in the country during the last six months; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) With a view to contain cement prices, strategy of Government has been on maximising cement production as also minimising the regional imbalances in its availability. For this purpose, infrastructural support to the industry, particularly in respect of availability of coal, power and rail wagons for movement of coal and cement is being closely monitored and remedial action taken wherever necessary, Railway have also been moving larger quantities of cement from the surplus states, particularly Andhra Pradesh to the deficit States in Northern and Eastern regions.

Because of this, cement production during the period April '91—September'91 was 25.8 million tonnes of cement which showed a growth rate of 11% over the corresponding period of last year.

Supply of aluminium to small scale cable and conductor industry

1398. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that small scale cable and conductor industry in the country is facing difficulty in securing aluminium which is being sold in black market; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to provide relief to the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) No, Sir.

No representation has been received by the Government from the Users Industry regarding non-availability of Aluminium.

(b) Does not arise.